

REMARKS

The Present Invention

The present invention is directed to a "humanized" polynucleotide vector, related compositions and kits, a composition for inducing an immune response, a method for expressing at least one target antigen or antigenic epitope thereof, a method for stimulating a specific immune response to at least one target antigen or antigenic epitope, and a method of making a humanized polynucleotide vector.

The Pending Claims

Claims 1-33, 36-44 and 60-110 are currently pending. Claims 1-15, 60-64, 66-77 and 105-109 are directed to the polynucleotide vector, whereas claims 27, 28, 89 and 90 are directed to the related compositions, claims 29-33 and 91-95 are directed to the kits, claims 16-22 and 78-84 are directed to the composition for inducing an immune response, claims 23-26, 65, 85-88 and 110 are directed to the method for expressing at least one target antigen or antigenic epitope thereof, claims 36-43 and 96-103 are directed to the method for stimulating a specific immune response, and claims 44 and 104 are directed to the method of making a humanized polynucleotide vector.

The Amendments to the Specification and Claims

The specification has been amended to recite **(SEQ. ID. NO. 23)** on page 47, line 23, of the specification as an identifier for primer 1, and to recite **(SEQ. ID. NO. 24)** on page 48, line 2, of the specification as an identifier for primer 2, to satisfy the sequence listing requirements. Claims 12, 63, 74, and 108 have been amended to recite the appropriate sequence identifying number following recitation of sequence in the claims.

No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

The Office Action

The Office contends that several sequences in the specification and claims are not properly identified with sequence identifying numbers.

Discussion of Sequence Identification

Applicants have amended the specification and claims where necessary to identify each sequence by the appropriate sequence identifying number. In view of the amendments, Applicants regard the rejection as moot. Applicants submit herewith a paper copy and a computer-readable copy of the Sequence Listing, which now include SEQ ID NOS: 30 and

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31 as recited in the specification, and a statement that the content of the paper and computer-readable copies are the same and do not introduce new matter.

Conclusion

The application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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